Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00

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PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EAID, EEC

SUBJECT: EC SKIM MILK POWDER FOOD AID

REF: (A) 75 EC BRUSSELS 10212, (B) EC BRUSSELS 00737 (C) 75 EC BRUSSELS 11424

- 1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: THE EC COMMISSION HAS SUBMITTED A PROPOSAL TO THE COUNCIL ALLOCATING 55,000 METRIC TONS (M.T.) OF SKIM MILK POWDER UNDER THE COMMUNITY-FINANCED FOOD AID PROGRAM. THIS IS THE SAME AMOUNT AS INLAST YEAR'S PROGRAM, SINCE THE COUNCIL DID NOT ACCEPT (DURING THE 1976 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS), ANY OF THE FOOD AID INCREASES PROPOSED BY THE COMMISSION AND SUPPORTED BY THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT.
- 2. THE COMMISSION PROPOSES THAT THE 55,000 M.T. BE DISTRIBUTED AS FOLLOWS: 22,900 M.T. DIRECTLY LDC'S, 27,7000 TONS TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND RESERVE OF 4,500 M.T.

AROUND 81 PERCENT OF THE DIRECT AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WOULD GO TO THOSE COUNTRIES ON THE MSA (MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED) LIST; THAT IS, COUNTRIES HAVING IMPORTANT FOOD NEEDS, A PER CAPITA INCOME OF LESS THAN \$300, AND FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES. AROUND 55 PERCENT OF THE DIRECT AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WOULD BE DISTRIBUTED FREE OF CHARGE TO THE POPULATION.

- 3. THE COMMISSION ESTIMATES THE COST OF THIS FOOD AID PROGRAM AT AROUND 36 MILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT, INCLUDING TRANSPORTATION AND DISTRIBUTION CHARGES. THIS PROPOSAL ON SKIM MILK POWDER COMPLETES THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS FOR THE 1976 COMMUNITY-FINANCED FOOD AID PROGRAM. THOSE FOR GRAINS AND BUTTEROIL WERE SUBMITTED LAST NOVEMBER (REF A).
- 4. THE COMMISSION CLAIMS THAT REQUESTS FROM 34
 COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR EC SKIM MILK POWDER
 ALREADY TOTAL ALMOST 200,000 TONS. THE 55,000 M.T.
 UNDER THE AVAILABLE BUDGET CREDITS WOULD HARDLY RESPOND TO THE FOOD NEEDS OF THE MSA'S, ACCORDING TO
 THE COMMISSION. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT, IN THE
 CONTEXT OF THE EC COMMISSION AGRICULTURAL PRICE PROPOSALS FOR 1976/77, THE COMMISSION PROPOSED AN INCREASE OF SKIM MILK POWDER FOR FOOD AID TO 200,000 TONS,
 OF WHICH 150,000 COULD BE DELIVERED DURING 1976 (REF C). IF
 THIS PROPOSAL IS APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE 55,000 M.T.
 WOULD BE INCORPORATED INTO THE 200,000 FIGURE.
- 5. WE SHALL FORWARD BY AIRGRAM THE FULL COMMISSION PROPOSAL (WHEN AVAILABLE) FOR THE 1976 SKIM MILK POWDER AID PROGRAM INCLUDING THE DISTRIBUTION BY COUNTRY AND INTERNATIONAL ORGAINZATION. END UNCLASSIFIED.
- 6. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE: LIVIO MARINUCCI, CHIEF OF THE DIVISION HANDLING FOOD AID IN THE COMMISSION'S DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE, TELLS US THAT PORTUGAL IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE AID PROGRAM SINCE IT IS NOT CONSIDERED A DEVELOPING COUNTRY. ALTHOUGH THE COMMISSION HAS BEEN DISCUSSING WAYS TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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USE FOOD TO AID PROTUGAL, MARINUCCI FEELS THAT THIS
WILL BE DONE VIA FOOD SALES AT REDUCED PRICES AND NOT
UNDER FOOD AID DONATIONS. COMMENT: MARINUCCI'S COMMENTS
NOTWITHSTANDING, WE DO NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE COMMUNIT
Y
WILL WORK OUT A SCHEME FOR PROVIDING FOOD AID UNDER A REFUGEE
PROGRAM OR PROVIDE LONG TERM CREDITS FOR FOOD PURCHASES THROUGH

THE AGRICULTURAL FUND (FEOGA) (REF. B). END COMMENT. HINTON

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